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3618

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sosin, et al.  
Serial No: 09/919,665  
Filed: July 31, 2001  
For: TRANSFERABLE SKI BINDING

Art Unit: 3618  
Examiner:

H5  
JPS  
29-18-02  
JW

RECEIVED  
APR 17 2002  
GROUP 3600

Sir:

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF DISCLOSURE  
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants respectfully request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

(Select A, B or C below)

A.  This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed:

(check 1, 2 and/or 3 below)

1.  within three months of the filing date of the above identified U.S. Patent application;
2.  within three months of the filing date of the entry of the National Stage, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491, in an International application; and/or
3.  before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application.

No fee or certification is required.

B.  This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed more than three months after the filing date of the present application and after the mailing date of this

first Office Action, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

(check 1 or 2 below)

1.  The fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed; or
2.  Applicants hereby certify, as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), that  
(check a or b below)
  - a.  each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; or
  - b.  no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
  - c.  items indicated by an asterisk were identified in a recent review of related files.

C.  This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed after the mailing date of either a Final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 and before payment of an Issue Fee.

(check 1, 2, and 3 below)

1.  The Applicant hereby certifies, as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), that:  
(check a or b below)
  - a.  each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

b. [ ] no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

2. [ ] A Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement is attached.

3. [ ] The Petition Fee of \$130 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is enclosed.

PART II - Information Cited

A. [X] The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the reference(s) listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

B. [ ] The Applicant hereby makes the following additional information of record in the above-identified application:

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

A. [X] The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

-- DE 298 20 426 U to Ipen, published January 14, 1999 entitled "SKI BINDING PLATE FOR TELEMARK SKIING AND DOWNHILL SKIING"

**Abstract:**

"The invention is a ski binding plate for telemark skiing and downhill skiing. Thus, it is possible to use the same ski first when telemark skiing to a downhill slope and then when downhill skiing in fact with a conventional downhill binding, which is better suited for this purpose than an existing telemark binding."

-- FR 2,696,355 A to Pierre et al., published April 8, 1994 entitled "MAGNETISED AND INTERMEDIATE PLATES FIXING BOOT TO SKI"

**Abstract:**

"The boot is held on the ski by a magnetised plate (A) which is fixed to, or integrated in, the upper surface of the ski. A rigid intermediate metallic plate (B) is held on the magnetic plate and fixed to the boot by a toe clamp (C) and a releasable heel clamp (D).

The magnetic plate has compartments which hold magnetic bars or plates which allow the force holding the intermediate plate to be adjusted. In a fall the intermediate plate leaves the magnetic plate but stays on the boot."

-- FR 2,634,659 A to Debersee et al., published February 2, 1990 entitled "SKI BINDING FOR A NATURAL OR SYNTHETIC SURFACE"

**Abstract:**

"The invention concerns: (a) a ski binding comprising an interface (2) fixed to the boot (1) and fitting into a ski seating (3); (b) the interface comprises means (7, 8, 9) to fix the boot (1) and means (10, 11, 12 and 16) for securing in the means (1, 3, 15, 14, 18) of the seating (3); (c) the invention concerns skis for natural or synthetic surfaces (snow, water, grass, sand)."

B.  The following are remarks concerning the other information cited:

**International Search Report for PCT/US 01/24352, filed August 2, 2001**

**PART IV: Remarks**

A.  Copies of references  
(check 1 or 2 below)

1.  A copy of each of the references cited on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified) is enclosed;
2.  Copies of certain of the references cited on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed because each of these references (indicated by asterisk) was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, U.S.S.N. \_\_\_\_\_ now U.S Pat. No. \_\_\_\_\_ which prior application is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. See 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

B.  It is respectfully requested that:  
(check 1, 2, and 3 below)

1.  The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2.  The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited patent(s) and publication(s) has (have) been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3.  The citations for the patent(s) and publication(s) be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

C.  By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more material information may not exist.

D.  By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

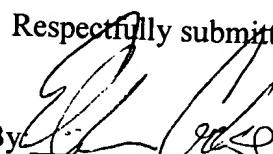
E.  By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

F.  Notwithstanding any statements by Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusions regarding the relevance of the cited reference(s).

An early and favorable action is hereby requested. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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Dated: April 1, 2002

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 4-2-02